Scrapping the MPLADS

3268. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to scrap the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS);

(b) if so, the reasons thereof in what way the MPs would carry on the development of their respective constituencies;

(c) in what manner the fund for MPLADS would utilized in future;

(d) whether that process be time consuming; and

(e) whether any role would be left to play for district collector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) There is no proposal in this Ministry to scrap the MPLADS.

Sports Hostels in Tamil Nadu

3269. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sports hostels in Tamil Nadu, as on date, location-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of new sports centre targeted to be opened in Tamil Nadu during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) 'Sports' is a State subject and promotion of the same at State level including construction of sports hostels is the primary responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, the Government of India, through various schemes of Sports Authority of India (SAI), augments the efforts of State Government in promotion of sports at Junior, Sub-Junior and Senior level. At present SAI is running two Training Centre in Tamil Nadu one at Chennai and another at Salem, which have hostel facilities.

(c) The proposed SAI Sub-Centre at Nagercoil in Tamil Nadu could not be established because of the land, allotted by the State Government of Tamil Nadu, falls under the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) in which no construction is permitted. The selection of feasible alternate land is under process.

Selection of sports persons for commonwealth games

†3270. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to change the existing structure of the Sports Council, if so, by when this process would be completed;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that neither essential resources nor coaches in sufficient number are available for players in all the Universities in the country;

(c) if so, whether it would be appropriate for them to participate in ensuing Commonwealth Games; and

(d) whether Government have completed the procedure of selection of sports persons for participation in forthcoming Commonwealth Games and the practice has been started by organising camps, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Details of availability of essential resources and coaches *vis-a-vis* their adequacy for players in all the Universities, is not maintained.

(c) Selection for participation in the ensuing Commonwealth Games in individual disciplines is made by the National Sports Federations.

(d) The preparation/training of sportspersons for major international events including Commonwealth and Olympic Games is an on-going process which takes into account inputs provided by National Sports Federations (NSFs). Systematic approach is adopted to select and train athletes and teams for participation in the major international events by

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.